

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

1. (Currently Amended) In an electronic device having a database of records of different category types, a method of displaying information, said method comprising:

a) receiving an indication from a user that selects a first category type of said different category types;

b) indexing a sort table with said first category type to obtain a primary sort field [[,]] and a secondary sort field ~~and a tertiary sort field~~ that have been selected by said user for said first category type, said sort table associating each category type of said different category types with its own primary [[,]] and secondary ~~second and tertiary~~ sort fields that have been selected by said user, wherein sort fields for each category type are under user control and wherein said first category type has a primary sort field different from that of another category type;

c) sorting records of said first category type into a first ~~an~~ order that is determined according to said primary [[,]] and secondary ~~and tertiary~~ sort fields for said first category type to produce a first sorted list;

d) displaying on a display screen of said electronic device at least a portion of said first sorted list, said first sorted list displayed in said first order determined according to said primary [[,]] and secondary ~~and tertiary~~ sort fields for said first category type, wherein said portion displayed is formatted automatically with information from said primary sort field for said first category type on the left-hand side of said display screen as viewed by said user, wherein by selecting said primary [[,]] and secondary ~~and tertiary~~ sort fields for said first category type said user controls said first order in which said records are displayed, wherein a record associated both

with said first category type and with a second category type is displayed in said first order when said first category type is selected for display and in a different second order when said second category type is selected for display, said second order determined according to primary and secondary sort fields selected for said second category type;

e) displaying on said display screen a group of sort instructions stored in said sort table, wherein displayed simultaneously are said primary [[,]] and secondary ~~and tertiary~~ sort fields that have been selected by said user for said first category type;

f) receiving an indication from said user that selects said secondary sort field from the displayed primary [[,]] and secondary ~~and tertiary~~ sort fields for said first category type; and

g) in response to step f), displaying a pop-down list comprising sort fields that can be used for said first category type instead of said selected secondary sort field, wherein said user optionally replaces said secondary sort field for said first category type with a sort field selected from said pop-down list.

2. (Currently Amended) A method as described in Claim 1 and further comprising:

receiving another indication from said user that selects said a second category type of said different category types;

indexing said sort table with said second category type to obtain a primary sort field for said second category type;

sorting records of said second category type into a third ~~an~~ order that is determined by said primary sort field for said second category type to produce a second sorted list; and

displaying on said display screen at least a portion of said second sorted list, said second sorted list displayed in said third order determined according to said primary sort field for said second category type.

3. (Original) A method as described in Claim 1 wherein said electronic device is a palm-sized computer system.

4. (Original) A method as described in Claim 1 wherein said electronic device is a wireless telephone.

5. (Original) A method as described in Claim 1 wherein said database is a database of contact information comprising records each having fields defining a name, an address and a telephone number.

6. (Canceled).

7. (Previously Presented) A method as described in Claim 1 wherein said step a) comprises said user depressing a designated button on said electronic device.

8. (Currently Amended) In a hand-held personal digital assistant having an address database of contact records of different category types, a method of displaying information, said method comprising:

a) receiving an indication from a user that selects a first category type of said different category types;

b) indexing a sort table with said first category type to obtain a primary sort field, a secondary sort field and a tertiary sort field that have been selected by said user for said first category type, said sort table associating each category type of said different category types with its own primary, secondary and tertiary sort fields that have been selected by said user, wherein sort fields for each category type are under user control and wherein said first category type has a primary sort field different from that of another category type;

c) sorting contact records of said first category type into a first ~~an~~ order that is determined according to said primary, secondary and tertiary sort fields for said first category type to produce a first sorted list;

d) displaying on a display screen of said hand-held personal digital assistant at least a portion of said first sorted list, said first sorted list displayed in said first order determined according to said primary, secondary and tertiary sort fields for said first category type, wherein said portion displayed is formatted automatically with information from said primary sort field for said first category type on the left-hand side of said display screen as viewed by said user, wherein by selecting said primary, secondary and tertiary sort fields for said first category type said user controls said first order in which said contact records are displayed, wherein a record associated both with said first category type and with a second category type is

displayed in said first order when said first category type is selected for display and in a different second order when said second category type is selected for display, said second order determined according to primary, secondary and tertiary sort fields selected for said second category type;

e) displaying on said display screen a group of sort instructions stored in said sort table, wherein displayed simultaneously are said primary, secondary and tertiary sort fields that have been selected by said user for said first category type;

f) receiving an indication from said user that selects said secondary sort field from the displayed primary, secondary and tertiary sort fields for said first category type; and

g) in response to step f), displaying a pop-down list comprising sort fields that can be used for said first category type instead of said selected secondary sort field, wherein said user optionally replaces said secondary sort field for said first category type with a sort field selected from said pop-down list;

h) receiving an indication from said user that selects said tertiary sort field; and

i) in response to step h), displaying a pop-down list comprising sort fields that can be used instead of said selected tertiary sort field, wherein said user optionally replaces said tertiary sort field with a sort field selected from said pop-down list.

9. (Currently Amended) A method as described in Claim 8 and further comprising:

receiving another indication from said user that selects said a second category type of said different category types;

indexing said sort table with said second category type to obtain a primary sort field for said second category type;

sorting contact records of said second category type into a third an order that is determined by said primary sort field for said second category type to produce a second sorted list; and

displaying on said display screen at least a portion of said second sorted list, said second sorted list displayed in said third order determined according to said primary sort field for said second category type.

10. (Previously Presented) A method as described in Claim 8 wherein said hand-held personal digital assistant is a palm-sized computer system.

11. (Previously Presented) A method as described in Claim 8 wherein said hand-held personal digital assistant is a wireless telephone.

12. (Original) A method as described in Claim 8 wherein said address database comprises contact records each having fields defining a name, an address and a telephone number.

13. (Canceled).

14. (Previously Presented) A method as described in Claim 8 wherein said step a) comprises said user depressing a designated button on said hand-held personal digital assistant.

15. (Currently Amended) An electronic device comprising a processor ~~coupled to a bus~~, a display coupled to said processor bus and a memory coupled to said processor bus, said memory having a database of records of different category types and instructions implementing a method of displaying information, said method comprising:

a) receiving an indication from a user that selects a first category type of said different category types;

b) indexing a sort table with said first category type to obtain a primary sort field [,] and a secondary sort field ~~and a tertiary sort field~~ that have been selected by said user for said first category type, said sort table associating each category type of said different category types with its own primary [,] and secondary ~~and tertiary~~ sort fields that have been selected by said user, wherein sort fields for each category type are under user control and wherein said first category type has a primary sort field different from that of another category type;

c) sorting ~~contact~~ records of said first category type into a first ~~an~~ order that is determined according to said primary [,] and secondary ~~and tertiary~~ sort fields for said first category type to produce a first sorted list;

d) displaying on said display screen at least a portion of said first sorted list, said first sorted list displayed in said first order determined according to said primary [,] and secondary ~~and tertiary~~ sort fields for said first category type, wherein said portion displayed is formatted automatically

with information from said primary sort field for said first category type on the left-hand side of said display screen as viewed by said user, wherein by selecting said primary ~~[[,]]~~ and secondary ~~and tertiary~~ sort fields for said first category type said user controls said first order in which said ~~contact~~ records are displayed, wherein a record associated both with said first category type and with a second category type is displayed in said first order when said first category type is selected for display and in a different second order when said second category type is selected for display, said second order determined according to primary and second sort fields selected for said secondary category type;

e) displaying on said display screen a group of sort instructions stored in said sort table, wherein displayed simultaneously are said primary ~~[[,]]~~ and secondary ~~and tertiary~~ sort fields that have been selected by said user for said first category type;

f) receiving an indication from said user that selects said secondary sort field for said first category type from the displayed primary ~~[[,]]~~ and secondary ~~and tertiary~~ sort fields; and

g) in response to step f), displaying a pop-down list comprising sort fields that can be used for said first category type instead of said selected secondary sort field, wherein said user optionally replaces said secondary sort field for said first category type with a sort field selected from said pop-down list. ~~[[,]]~~

~~h) receiving an indication from said user that selects said tertiary sort field; and~~

~~i) in response to step h), displaying a pop-down list comprising sort fields that can be used instead of said selected tertiary sort field, wherein~~

~~said user optionally replaces said tertiary sort field with a sort field selected from said pop down list.~~

16. (Currently Amended) An electronic device as described in Claim 15 wherein said method further comprises:

receiving another indication from said user that selects said a second category type of said different category types;

indexing said sort table with said second category type to obtain a primary sort field for said second category type;

sorting ~~contact~~ records of said second category type into a third ~~an~~ order that is determined by said primary sort field for said second category type to produce a second sorted list; and

displaying on said display screen at least a portion of said second sorted list, said second sorted list displayed in said third order determined according to said primary sort field for said second category type.

17. (Previously Presented) An electronic device as described in Claim 15 wherein said electronic device is a palm-sized computer system.

18. (Previously Presented) An electronic device as described in Claim 15 wherein said electronic device is a wireless telephone.

19. (Previously Presented) An electronic device as described in Claim 15 wherein said database is a database of contact information comprising records each having fields defining a name, an address and a telephone number.

20. (Canceled).

21. (Previously Presented) An electronic device as described in Claim 15 wherein said step a) of said method comprises said user depressing a designated button on said electronic device.